

III.—*Remarks on a Collection of Birds from the Sikkim Himalayas.* By P. L. SCLATER, D.Sc., F.R.S.

DURING a visit to Glasgow in September last I had the pleasure of inspecting (under the kind guidance of Prof. Graham Kerr) the fine collection of the birds of Sikkim made by Col. L. A. Waddell, C.B., and presented by him to the Hunterian Museum of the University in 1893. There are about 1600 specimens in the collection, all in good order. They have been described in a paper written by Col. Waddell, and published in 'The Gazetteer of Sikkim' of 1894*, of which Col. Waddell has kindly sent me a copy. I was not previously acquainted with the existence of this memoir, which is of much interest. After preliminary remarks on previous authorities on the birds of Sikkim, Col. Waddell describes the climate and conformation of the country, which he says may be viewed as "a stupendous stairway, leading from the western border of the Tibetan plateau down to the plains of Bengal with a fall of about 17,000 feet in 150 miles." He then proceeds to give a tabular list of the species (about 450 in all), with their scientific and vernacular names and their exact localities and altitudes in the Sikkim Himalayas.

In conclusion, he adds field-notes on about 100 of the species contained in the previous list, amongst which are many of considerable interest.

Col. Waddell, in a letter, tells me that the specimens in his collection have never been examined by an expert in Indian ornithology, and that he would be much pleased to supply any further information he may have to anyone who would undertake to re-examine the specimens and revise the List.

A few of them, however, were referred to the British Museum in 1894, and among these Mr. Ogilvie-Grant found a specimen of a new species of *Garrulax*, which he named *Garrulax waddelli* (see Bull. B. O. C. iii. p. xxix, 1894).

* "A List of Sikkim Birds, showing their Geographical Distribution." By L. A. Waddell, F.L.S. Gaz. of Sikkim, 1894, p. 198.

I need hardly remind our readers that Col. Waddell, who was the Chief of the Medical Service in the Tibetan Expedition of 1904, made a collection of birds on that occasion. This was unfortunately lost on the return march from Lhasa, except a few specimens which were examined by Mr. Dresser and described by him*.

IV.—*On further Collections of Birds from the Efulen District of Camaroon, West Africa.* By R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D. *With Notes by the Collector, G. L. BATES.*—Part V. †

(Plate III.)

SEVERAL consignments of birds have reached the British Museum from Mr. Bates, and I have in the present paper carried on my description of the collection to the *Timeliidæ* and *Turdidæ*.

As before, Mr. Bates's original notes are signed with his initials, and placed between square brackets [].

205. MACROSPHENUS FLAVICANS.

Macrosphenus flavicans Cass.; Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, iii. p. 615 (1905).

a. ♀ ad. Efulen, Dec. 12, 1902.

No. 391. ♀ imm. Efulen, March 24, 1904.

No. 1089. ♂ ad. Zima Country, Oct. 8, 1905.

No. 2508. ♂ ad. Bitey, River Ja. May 10, 1907.

No. 391 seems to me to be a young bird, as it has the throat greenish yellow, a little paler than the under-surface. I would suggest that *M. zenkeri* of Reichenow may be the young of *M. flavicans*.

206. TURDINUS BATESI.

Turdinus batesi Sharpe; id. Ibis, 1902, p. 94, pl. iv. fig. 2; id. Hand-l. B. iv. p. 34 (1903).

* P. Z. S. 1905, pt. i. p. 54 (Jan. 1905).

† Cf. for previous papers: Sharpe, 'Ibis,' 1904, pp. 88, 591; 'Ibis,' 1905, p. 461; Bates, 'Ibis,' 1905, p. 89; Sharpe, 'Ibis,' 1907, p. 416.